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DRAFTED BY OSD/WALKER-EUR/RPM:REHFELD APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:HAHOLMES DOD/ISA:MAJGEN. BOWMAN DOD/DDR AND E:DR. CURRIE DOD/USAF/AWACS TF:COL BUTLER EUR/NE:MR. SCHALLER PM/ISP:MR. FLOWERREE

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E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: NATO, AWACS, MILI

SUBJECT: DANISH PARTICIPATION IN NATO AEW AND DR. CURRIE'S -- VISIT

REF:A.STATE 191850 B. COPENHAGEN 2622

1. WE GREATLY APPRECIATE EMBASSY'S THOUGHTFUL APPRAISAL OF PROSPECTS FOR DANISH PARTICIPATION IN NATO AEW (AWACS) PROGRAM (REF B). WE CONTINUE TO PLACE HIGHEST IMPORTANCE ON PARTICIPATION BY DENMARK. WHILE WE AGREE AS SUGGESTED PARA 7 REF B THAT MOST WE CAN PROBABLY HOPE FOR FROM DANES AT THIS JUNCTURE IS A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT IN PRINCIPLE FOR NATO AEW, SUCH A PUBLIC STATEMENT PRIOR TO DECEMBER NATO MINISTERIAL COULD BE OF CRITICAL SIGNIFICANCE.

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2. WE BELIEVE SUCH A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT IN

PRINCIPLE SHOULD BE PHRASED TO INDICATE THAT DANES INTEND TO PARTICIPATE REPEAT PARTICIPATE IN NATO AEW. PARTICIPATION, OF COURSE, INCLUDES INTEGRATING GROUND ELECTRONIC ENVIRONMENT, CO-MANNING, ETC. PARTICIPATION ALSO INCLUDES SHARING IN OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE(O AND M)COSTS, AND IN LIGHT OF EXTREMELY MODEST AMOUNT INVOLVED WE HOPE DANES CAN SEE WAY CLEAR TO MAKING A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF INTENT TO PARTICIPATE IN O AND M COSTS AS WELL. WE ESTIMATE DANISH FAIR SHARE OF O AND M COSTS AT ABOUT DOLS 3.0 MILLION A YEAR, BEGINNING IN MID-1979, WHICH IS CERTAINLY A

MANAGEABLE SUM EVEN IN DANISH CONTEXT. WE ARE SIMPLY NOT TALKING ABOUT "BILLIONS OF DOLLARS FOR AWACS IN DENMARK" AS PER PARA 5 REF B.

- 3. VISIT TO COPENHAGEN ON SEPT 3-4 BY DR. MALCOLM R. CURRIE, DIRECTOR OF DEFENSE RESEARCH AND ENGINEERING, DOD, OFFERS A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION OF NATO AEW WITH MOD MOLLER. DR. CURRIE IS UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO ADDRESS MANY DANISH TECHNICAL CONCERNS HIGHLIGHTED IN REF B. THESE INCLUDE DANISH UNCERTAINITY ABOUT SURVIVABILITY, AWACS TIE-IN WITH NADGE SYSTEM, AND RELATED QUESTION OF AWACS INTEGRATION WITH GROUND ENVIRONMENT SYSTEMS. HE WILL ALSO REITERATE OUR HOPE AND EXPECTATION THAT DANISH CREWS WILL PARTICIPATE IN CO-MANNING.
- 4. REGARDING OFFSET, HE PLANS TO TELL MOLLER WE ARE ENGAGED IN INTENSIVE REVIEW OF OFFSET POSSIBILITIES WHICH WE HOPE SHORTLY TO BE ABLE TO DISCUSS WITH DANES IN DETAIL. NATURALLY, OFFSET OFFERS WILL GO PRINCIPALLY TO THOSE COUNTRIES WHICH WILL PARTICIPATE IN PROCUREMENT FUNDING, WITH BENEFITS GENERALLY IN PROPORTION TO THE EXTENT OF SUCH PARTICIPATION. A DANISH CONTRIBUTION TO PROCUREMENT FUNDING, EVEN IF RELATIVELY MINOR, WOULD PUT DENMARK IN THE RUNNING FOR OFFSET.
- 5. WE UNDERSTAND DR. CURRIE WILL MEET WITH AMBASSADOR DEAN PRIOR TO SEEING MOLLER. AT THAT TIME, HE WOULD VERY MUCH APPRECIATE THE AMBASSADOR'S COMMENTS ON THE ABOVE AS WELL AS ANY SUGGESTIONS AMBASSADOR MAY HAVE ON THIS SUBJECT CONFIDENTIAL

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ADDITIONAL TO THOSE IN REF B.

6. FOLLOWING IS GENERAL BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON CURRENT STATUS OF NATO AEW (AWACS): AT THE PRESENT TIME WE ESTIMATE PROCUREMENT COSTS FOR 25-27 NATO AWACS AIRCRAFT, NECESSARY FOR COVERAGE OF THE FLANKS AS WELL AS CENTRAL EUROPE, TO BE ON THE ORDER OF 2.4 BILLION IN CURRENT DOLLARS OF THIS AMOUNT, THE US, FRG, UK, AND CANADA WILL PROBABLY

CONTRIBUTE DOLS 2.08 BILLION LEAVING A SHORTFALL OF SOME DOLS 320 MILLION. WE NEED COMMITMENTS FROM OUR OTHER ALLIES AT LEAST IN PRINCIPLE, BY SEPTEMBER OR OCTOBER IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR A PROCUREMENT DECISION DURING THE DECEMBER MINISTERIAL. WE ANTICIPATE THAT NORWAY, BELGIUM, AND ITALY MIGHT POSSIBLY CONTRIBUTE SIGNIFICANTLY TO HELP EASE THIS DOLS 320 MILLION PROCUREMENT SHORTFALL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT FRANCE WILL PARTICIPATE IN O AND M FUNDING. THE SITUATIONS IN GREECE, TURKEY, AND PORTUGAL WILL LIKELY PRECLUDE THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE PROCUREMENT PHASE AT THIS TIME, BUT WE EXPECT THEM TO PARTICIPATE IN O AND M

COSTS; LUXEMBOURG AND ICELAND LACK THE NECESSARY FINANCIAL AND MILITARY RESOURCES. NO ALLY SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO BEAR A DISPROPORTIONATE PART OF THE LOAD.

7. DURING MOD MOLLER'S RECENT VISIT TO THE US, HE RE-CEIVED A BRIEFING BY DR. CURRIE THAT GRAPHICALLY PRESENTED THE GROWING SOVIET THREAT. DR. CURRIE EMPHASIZED THE NEED FOR AWACS AS ONE TECHNOLOGICAL AREA IN WHICH THE US HAS A LEAD. HE STATED THAT IT IS MOST IMPORTANT FOR ALLIES TO SEEK CAPABILITIES THAT MULTIPLY THE CAPACITY OF EXISTING FORCES TO OPERATE EFFECTIVELY. FOR EXAMPLE, AWACS CAN DETECT ENEMY AIRCRAFT AND DIRECT BOTH GROUND MISSILES AND INTERCEPTOR AIRCRAFT TO DEAL WITH BOTH HIGH AND LOW LEVEL ATTACKS. AS A RESULT, THE EFFECTIVENESS OF EXPENSIVE ALLIED FIGHTER FORCES IS INCREASED BY A FACTOR OF TWO, AND IN SOME SITUATIONS MUCH MORE. MOD MOLLER AGREED THAT IT IS ESSENTIAL TO FOCUS ON SYSTEMS THAT DO GIVE US THIS KIND OF MULTIPLIER EFFECT. HE ALSO INDICATED THAT HE IS EXTREMELY CONCERNED ABOUT THE SITUATION. AND AGREED THAT ALL ALLIES MUST INCREASE CONTRIBUTIONS TO COUNTER THE SOVIET BUILDUP. KISSINGER CONFIDENTIAL

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